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CLASSIFICATION COUNTY ...

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

1/8/

## INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY El Salvador

DATE DISTR. 14 December 1948

SUBJECT Constitutional Reform Initiated by Special Assembly

NO. OF PAGES 1

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PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE OF

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

- 1. President Castaneda of al Salvador has offered to buy off Col. Aguirre, a leading presidential candidate, with terms involving cash and a promise of fifteen seats in the National Assembly. Col. Aguirre's committee met on the morning of 14 December to consider their course of action. They were expected to pose impossible demands of Castaneda, including Aguirre's appointment as Defense Minister.
- 2. Young officers in the Salvadoran army are now in secret session. It is believed likely that a show of force may result.

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STATECPA

ARMY

Comment. For the first time, the policy of self-perpetuation in office was brought out into the open when a special Assembly convoked an election on 16-17 December of a Constituent Assembly. The purpose is to reform the Constitution by prolonging the presidential term two years. Public tension was high as the opposition's reaction is awaited.)

